2014 Immigration Update

Newfoundland Labrador

Advanced Education and Skills

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Message from the Minister

As Minister Responsible for Immigration and Multiculturalism, I present the 2014 Immigration Update, which highlights the accomplishments and continued efforts to enhance immigration in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The province's labour market has changed significantly since the release of the provincial immigration strategy in 2007. More than ever before, employers are challenged to find the skilled workers they need for hard-to-fill positions and immigration has significantly helped employers meet evolving labour market needs. The attraction and retention of qualified workers and their families from outside of Canada, who have the skills and experience to contribute to the provincial economy is an important component of the Provincial Government's workforce development agenda.

Prior to 2007, an average of 450 immigrants came to the Newfoundland and Labrador annually. Since then, annual immigration has been increasing and in 2013, 825 immigrants arrived in the province, the highest ever annual total.

Immigration continues to be an essential tool to enhance positive labour market outcomes in this province. The integration of the Office of Immigration and Multiculturalism into the Workforce Development and Immigration Branch of the Department of Advanced Education and Skills has enabled this government to strengthen its approach to labour market development in Newfoundland and Labrador.

This Immigration Update provides profiles of Eren Bayazitoglu and David Howells, immigrants who have made successful lives for themselves and their families in Newfoundland and Labrador. It also provides information on the Provincial Nominee Program, recruitment missions, the Temporary Foreign Worker Program and much more. The update illustrates the progress and accomplishments that have been achieved for immigration in our province. Going forward we will continue to make enhancements and promote Newfoundland and Labrador as an ideal place to live, work and raise a family.

Kevin O'Brien
Minister Responsible for Immigration and Multiculturalism

Newfoundland Labrador

www.gov.nl.ca

Immigrant Profile
Eren Bayazitoglu

The journey of Eren Bayazitoglu from Turkey to Newfoundland and Labrador began with encouragement from his parents. They had travelled to Canada in the past and appreciated the quality of living and multicultural society. After researching universities, they felt Memorial University delivered on the qualities they wanted for Eren to help him be successful in the future.

Eren enrolled in Memorial University in 2000 and lived in on-campus residence. He fondly remembers his residence experience, how multiculturalism was welcomed and international students respected. Eren convocated from Memorial University in 2006 with a Bachelor of Business Administration with a focus in marketing.

After finishing university, Eren decided to stay in Newfoundland and Labrador because of the quality of life and equality he experienced. He enrolled in the Provincial Nominee Program in 2009, received Permanent Residency in 2010 and became a Canadian citizen in 2013.

He met his wife Kelly in 2010 and they were married three years later, after he received his Canadian Citizenship. They now have a 6-month old son, Noah Eren.They want to provide the best life possible for Noah Eren, and believe they can do that in Newfoundland and Labrador.

"Being a Canadian is more than having a passport. It's a duty and responsibility to help one another."- Eren Bayazitoglu

Eren is an accomplished Spanish-Flamenco guitarist and has been nominated for three MusicNL awards. He also volunteers his time raising funds for local charities such as the SPCA, Tommy Sexton Centre and the Canadian Cancer Society. He does this volunteer work through his company Musicisyou.com, which also caters to weddings, corporate events, private parties and private lessons. He has worked with Steele Communications, Verafin, Camouflage Software and is now the Marketing Manager with Aramark for Newfoundland and Labrador.

"Being a Canadian is more than having a passport. It's a duty and responsibility to help one another."

Did you know?

89% of Provincial Nominees have a post-secondary education or higher

In 2013, temporary foreign workers made up 1.3% of the working population in Newfoundland and Labrador

Provincial Nominee Program

The Provincial Nominee Program is a provincial immigration program made possible through an agreement with the Government of Canada. The program allows the province to select and nominate qualified skilled workers from around the world for immigration to Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Provincial Nominee Program has provided the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador the opportunity to assist employers experiencing hiring challenges while increasing immigration to the province. In 2013, a record high of 825 new immigrants settled in Newfoundland and Labrador. The growth in the overall immigration numbers is a primary result of the Provincial Nominee Program. Over 50 per cent of these new immigrants came to Newfoundland and Labrador because they were selected and nominated by the province.

For the past four years, Newfoundland and Labrador's quota of target nominations was 300 per year. However, this year the Provincial Government was successful in negotiating with the Federal Government an increase in quota. Starting in 2015, the province will be able to select and nominate 500 individuals for immigration to Newfoundland and Labrador.

Did you know?

Provincial Nominees come from 98 countries

Express Entry

In January 2015 the Federal Government plans to launch a new electronic application immigration management system called Express Entry. Through this new management system, immigration candidates will be fast tracked once they receive either an offer of employment from a Canadian employer, a provincial nomination or are selected by Citizenship and Immigration Canada. In 2015, Newfoundland and Labrador will have an additional Provincial Nominee Program quota of 550 nominations that can be selected from the Express Entry pool of candidates. Newfoundland and Labrador will utilize these nominations based on local labour market needs. For further information on Express Entry, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/publications/employers/express-entry-presentation-fall2014.asp

Did you know?

These are the top ten countries that nominees come from

1. Philippines
2. China
3. India
4. United Kingdom
5. Ireland
6. United States of America
7. Pakistan
8. Bangladesh
9. Nigeria
10. South Africa

Recruitment Missions

Ireland Recruitment Mission - November 2013
In November 2013, the Provincial Government led a delegation on a successful recruitment mission to Ireland. Thirteen local employers accompanied officials from the Department of Advanced Education and Skills to Waterford and Dublin. As a result of this mission 27 individuals were nominated for immigration to Newfoundland and Labrador. In addition, the delegates made worthwhile connections with Irish educational, healthcare and government institutions. Since 2007, the province has nominated 73 individuals as a result of recruitment events in Ireland.

Working International Expo - September 2014
Based on the success of the 2013 mission to Ireland, in September, a provincial delegation of officials and local employers attended job recruitment events in London, UK and Dublin, Ireland. Currently twenty-one job offers have been made as a result and further offers are anticipated.

Destination Canada - November 2014
During November, a provincial delegation comprised of officials, local employers and a representative from the Fédération des Francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador attended Destination Canada in Paris. Destination Canada is a Francophone job fair organized by the Canadian Embassy in Paris that takes place in Paris, France and Brussels, Belgium. During this fair, more than 800 people visited the Newfoundland and Labrador booth to seek information on the local

job market, the process for immigrating and general information on Newfoundland and Labrador. These countries have high levels of education, training and diversified economies and provide local employers access to a pool of bilingual workers with a wide variety of skills.

Potential Recruitment Fairs for 2015
The Department of Advanced Education and Skills will provide future mission information to businesses as soon as details are available to ensure there is ample time for planning and booking travel. These details are usually received at the Department of Advanced Education and Skills three to four months prior to events. Please see list of potential fairs on back of brochure.

Potential Recruitment Fairs

Winter and Spring 2015

February 7 and 8	
The Netherlands	International Emigration Expo
March 21 and 22	
Dublin, Ireland	Working Abroad Expo 2015
March 25	
Cork, Ireland	Working Abroad Expo 2015
March 28 and 29	
Warsaw, Poland	Working Abroad Expo 2015
February	
Calgary	Working Abroad Newcomers Event
March	
Toronto	Working Abroad Newcomers Event
April	
Vancouver	Working Abroad Newcomers Event

***Recruitment fairs that take place during the fall such as Destination Canada finalize their events and send out the information in the spring.**

Temporary Foreign Worker Program

The Temporary Foreign Worker Program is a Federal Government initiative administered by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada. It allows employers to temporarily employ foreign workers when qualified Canadians are not available.

This past June, the Federal Government announced changes to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, which included a restriction on hiring foreign workers in "low-wage" positions (less than $20.18 per hour) in regions with unemployment rates of six per cent or higher, as determined by Statistics Canada. This resulted in some problems for employers challenged to find workers. To assist these employers, the Department of Advanced Education and Skills has designed and delivered targeted solutions such as the Sector Skills program to help Newfoundlanders and Labradorians fill service sector vacancies in regions where enough people exist to fill those local jobs.

For further information on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, please see www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/jobs/foreign_workers/reform/index.shtml

For further information on the Sector Skills program, please see www.aes.gov.nl.ca/empservices/default.html#sectorskills

Workforce Development and Immigration

Employers are looking for solutions to their labour market challenges, and employees, unemployed persons and students are looking for ways to maximize their employment opportunities.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Employer's Council has noted *"mitigating the economic and labour force impacts of population decline and population aging is a key priority for the business sector. While provincial strategies to reduce unemployment, increase participation, increase productivity and increase net interprovincial migration will be critical, they will not be sufficient to address the severity of the labour market and economic challenges caused by our declining population. Immigration will be essential to support continued economic development and to help sustain the population, or at least slow the rate of decline."*

Facts about our nominees 2007 - 2014

All 2014 statistics in this document reflect partial year data.

The Department of Advanced Education and Skills' Office of Immigration and Multiculturalism has been integrated into the new Workforce Development and Immigration Branch in recognition of immigration as an essential tool to enhance positive labour market outcomes in Newfoundland and Labrador. This integration ensures that labour market and immigration-related programs and supports, as well as foreign credential recognition, are strategically aligned to develop and deploy a highly trained and skilled workforce to meet evolving labour market demands.

Settlement Services

The Provincial Government must support settlement and integration services and essential supports for immigrants and their families so they can successfully transition to become community members and contribute to the growth of this province. Ensuring that immigrants have the opportunity to fully integrate into Newfoundland and Labrador society will increase the likelihood they will choose to continue to live and work in the province.

Through continued collaboration with service providing organizations, employers, and stakeholders, the Department of Advanced Education and Skills continues to provide support for a range of programs and initiatives to assist internationally trained workers, international graduates, and new immigrants to successfully integrate into Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Provincial Government is committed to supporting services required to ensure that immigrants continue to live and work in the province. The Department of Advanced Education and Skills will continue to work in partnership with the Federal Government and stakeholders to improve the retention of immigrants in Newfoundland and Labrador.

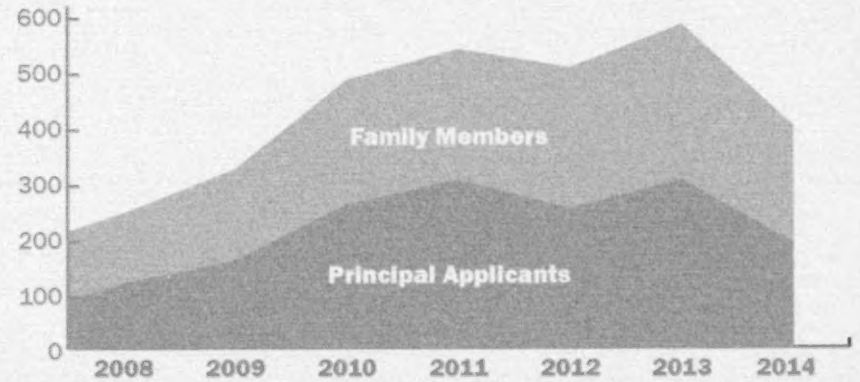
International Students and Graduates

The Department of Advanced Education and Skills is a source of information and guidance to international students. The Office of Immigration and Multiculturalism partners with Memorial University, Grenfell Campus, the Marine Institute, College of the North Atlantic and private training institutions to:

- organize Provincial Nominee Program information sessions to international students and graduates who may be considering immigration to Newfoundland and Labrador
- participate in immigration events for graduate fairs, career fairs and alumni fairs
- provide Provincial Nominee Program presentations to international faculty members of Memorial University during orientation week
- present at the Entrepreneurship Training Program for graduate students of Memorial University who may be interested in immigrating and starting a business in the province

Facts about our nominees

Nominees and their family, 2008-2014



Representatives from the Department of Advanced Education and Skills, including the Office of Immigration and Multiculturalism, will also be available at these institutions on a regular basis starting January 2015. This will be in addition to the current information sessions that are presented by the Office of Immigration and Multiculturalism. A schedule will be available on the departmental website in January.

Post-Secondary Institutions

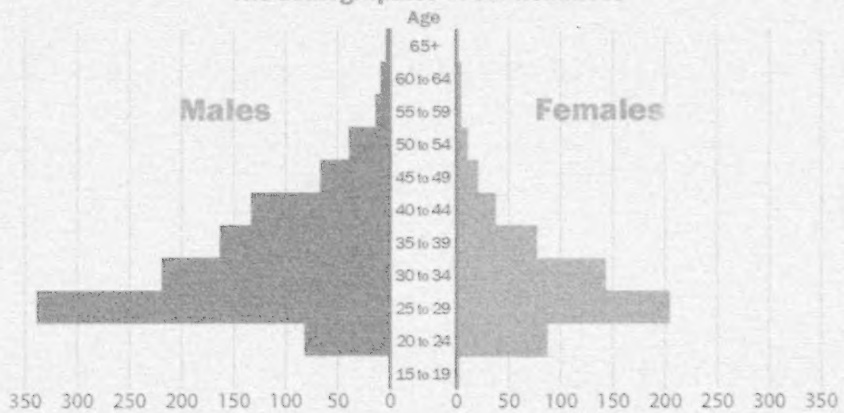
The Department of Advanced Education and Skills works closely with post-secondary institutions to promote the province as a place to study, live and work.
The Department of Advanced Education and Skills partners with Memorial University, College of the North Atlantic and private training institutions to find synergies between international student attraction, research partnerships, faculty, student exchange priorities and the Provincial Government's immigration priorities.

Partnering with Atlantic Canada

The Department of Advanced Education and Skills continues to partner with the Atlantic Provinces through the Atlantic Workforce Partnership to develop and participate in Pan-Atlantic immigration and attraction initiatives. This partnership will increase awareness of Atlantic Canada as a destination of choice for new immigrants to Canada.

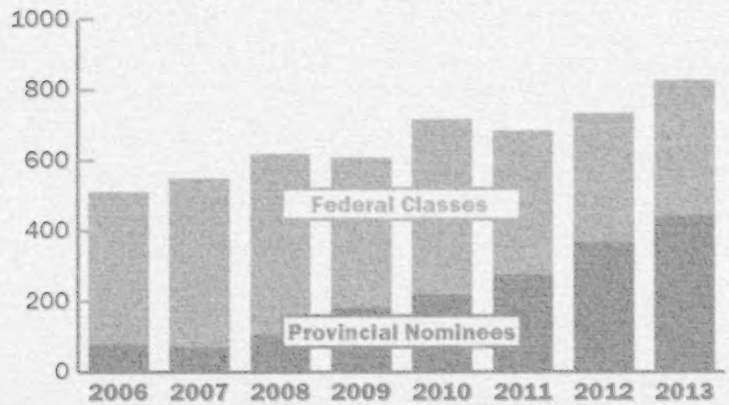
Facts about our nominees

The demographics of our nominees



Did you know?

Provincial Nominees contribute to over 50% of new immigrants coming to Newfoundland and Labrador



Immigrant Profile
David Howells

A chance meeting with his future wife in Kingston, Ontario eventually led David Howells to call Newfoundland and Labrador home. David, a photojournalist from Great Britain, was visiting Ontario in 1993 when he met his wife, Naomi, a Newfoundlander who was pursuing a post-secondary degree at the time.

They married in 1995 and moved to Britain for two years before deciding to move to New York where David established his own photojournalist company. Howells and his wife had a daughter, Agatha, in 2005 and after years of discussion and encouragement from his wife, decided it was time to move to Newfoundland and Labrador.

The couple had purchased property prior to their move in 2008 and were excited to set down permanent roots and raise their daughter. They both felt that safety and culture was of utmost importance to their family and the beauty of Newfoundland and Labrador was a masterpiece that David became passionate about.

He continued to commute back and forth between St. John's and New York City for work but eventually decided to turn his focus on advertising photography and make his home base in this province. Faced with uncertainty about how to maintain a successful career in photography in Newfoundland and Labrador, Howells and his wife came to the Department of Advanced Education and Skills for help.

Howells obtained a work permit for this province and has flourished with opportunities to work in several award-winning advertising campaigns here and abroad. He has worked with Memorial University and oil and gas companies to name a few, and has maintained his own photography business with portrait work, landscapes and more. He applied to the Provincial Nominee Program in 2011 and became a Permanent Resident in 2012. Howells plans on becoming a Canadian citizen in the near future.

"Newfoundland and Labrador provides a sense of belonging to me that very few places can. I want my daughter to have a sense of belonging which I didn't have growing up." - David Howells

He boasts of the unique beauty of Newfoundland and Labrador, the people who live here and the tremendous lighting that he takes advantage of as a photographer due the province's clean air. Howells says his upbringing revolved around him living outside of Britain for 37 years. "I'm not from anywhere," Howells states matter-of-factly. "Newfoundland and Labrador provides a sense of belonging to me that very few places can. I want my daughter to have a sense of belonging which I didn't have growing up."

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